GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4782
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2000
MOBILE DISPENSARIES
DALPAT SINGH PARASTE

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India have the highest number of T.B. patients and the poor people are unable to buy medicines for this disease;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide medicines to the patients living in tribal, backward and remote areas;

(c) whether the Government also propose to make arrangements for the distribution of medicines through mobile dispensaries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a)&(b) India accounts for nearly one-third of global TB burden. It is estimated that 2.2 million TB cases occur every year. Under National TB Control Programme, diagnosis and treatment facilities including supply of anti-TB drugs are provided free of cost to TB patients. TB control activities are being strengthened with the implementation of the Revised National TB Control Programme. This already covers many tribal/backward and remote areas in various States. Under this Programme, to facilitate access to service delivery, norms are being relaxed in the tribal areas as follows: Providing for additional supervisory staff for 2-3 lakhs population against the established norm of 5 lakhs. Opening of one microscopy Centre per 50,000 population against the established norm on one lakh. Provision to reimburse the travel claims of patients and accompanying relatives for taking treatment at DOTS Centres.

(c) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.